

**April 14, 2010**

**WASHINGTON, DC - On Wednesday, April 14, 2010** U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) met with students, including New Hartford Native Evan Philipson, from the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Israel Coalition at his Washington, DC office.

The students were in Washington as part of an annual trip to meet with Senators, Members of Congress like Arcuri and other leaders to discuss U.S. - Israel relations. During the meeting with Arcuri, the students advocated for stronger sanctions against Iran and increased foreign aid to Israel. They also thanked Arcuri for his strong record of support for Israel and other issues including:

- In April 2010, sent a letter urging President Obama to reaffirm that the United States will prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capabilities by imposing further sanctions on the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, the Iranian banking system, and Iran's ability to import and refine gasoline.

- In December 2009, sent a letter to President Obama urging him to build upon the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that the United States and Israel agreed to in 2007 by increasing security assistance for Israel in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget.

- Cosponsored, and voted for, H.R. 2194, the Iran Refined Petroleum Sanctions Act. This legislation requires the President to impose sanctions on any entity that provides Iran with refined petroleum resources or contributes to Iran's ability to import such resources. H.R. 2194 prevents such entities from doing business in the United States. It also urges the president to impose sanctions on the Central Bank of Iran and other financial institutions that support terrorist groups.

The Penn Israel Coalition (PIC) is a grassroots, bi-partisan, pro-Israel umbrella organization made up of University of Pennsylvania community members from all backgrounds and beliefs. PIC works on and off Penn's campus to bolster support of Israel's right to exist as a Jewish,

democratic state with safe and secure borders. PIC's regular activities include hosting notable speakers, fun and exciting community events, lobbying trips, and campaigns on behalf of important causes.